

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed August 11, 2006, claims 16 and 17 were objected to; claims 18, 19, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Igari et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,654); claims 1-5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igari et al. in view of Korean Patent No. KR 1999-39321; claims 6, 9, 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igari et al. in view of KR 1999-0039321 and further in view of Park et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,437); and claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Igari et al. in view of Park et al. The foregoing objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 14 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, 17, 18 and 21 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found at FIGS. 3 and 4, for example.

Claims 1-13 and 15-22 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

At page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Igari et al. fails to discuss "a second duct is positioned at a top of the refrigerating compartment" as recited in claim 1, for example. However, the Examiner asserts that KR 1999-0039321 discusses this feature. Further, at page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Igari et al. fails to discuss the Applicants "lamp" as recited in claim 20, for example. However, the Examiner asserts that Park et al. discusses this feature.

The Applicants respectfully submit that none of the foregoing references relied upon, individually or combined, discuss "the second duct being positioned at a top portion of the refrigerating compartment of the main body and comprising a main duct provided at the top portion of the refrigerating compartment and to which the cooling air is supplied from the evaporating unit and a cooling air supply hole to supply the cooling air to the refrigerating compartment; and a guide duct in communication with the evaporating unit and the first and second ducts, the guide duct provided at a top portion of the refrigerating compartment to supply the cooling air to the first and second ducts, respectively," as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

Claim 18 has been amended to recite features somewhat similar to those recited in amended claim 1.

At page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Igari et al. discusses a main duct 11 comparable to that of the Applicants' "main duct" as recited in claim 1, for example. The Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. As mentioned above, the Examiner admitted that Igari et al. fails to discuss the Applicants "second duct being positioned at a top portion of the refrigerating compartment," as recited in claim 1, for example. Therefore, Igari et al. also fails to recite "the second duct... comprising a main duct provided at the top portion of the refrigerating compartment," as also recited in amended claim 1. The duct 11 shown in FIGS. 1 and 2 of Igari et al. is not positioned at a top portion of the refrigerating chamber 6. Instead, the duct 11 is positioned along a rear portion of the refrigerating chamber 6. Further, at page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Igari et al. discusses a guide duct surrounding the cooling unit 8. The Applicants respectfully submit that this duct is not comparable to the Applicants "guide duct provided at a top portion of the refrigerating compartment to supply the cooling air to the first and second ducts..." as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

FIG. 2 of KR 1999-0032321 merely illustrates a refrigerator including a duct 23a positioned in between a freezing compartment and a refrigerating compartment of the refrigerator, whereby cooling air is supplied to the refrigerating compartment.

Park et al. discusses a refrigerator having an air duct including first and second vertical passages, and a row of vertically spaced discharge openings disposed between the air passages (see FIG. 5, for example).

Dependent claims 2-13, 15-17 and 19-22 recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. For example, claim 4 recites "the main duct further comprises a first cooling air channel and a second cooling air channel on the inside thereof, to guide the cooling air to the side ducts".

Withdrawal of the objections and rejections is respectfully requested.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

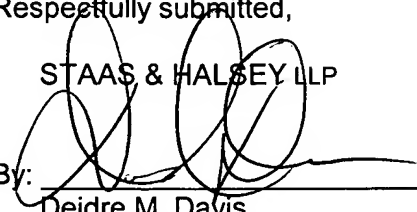
Respectfully submitted,

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11/13/2006

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